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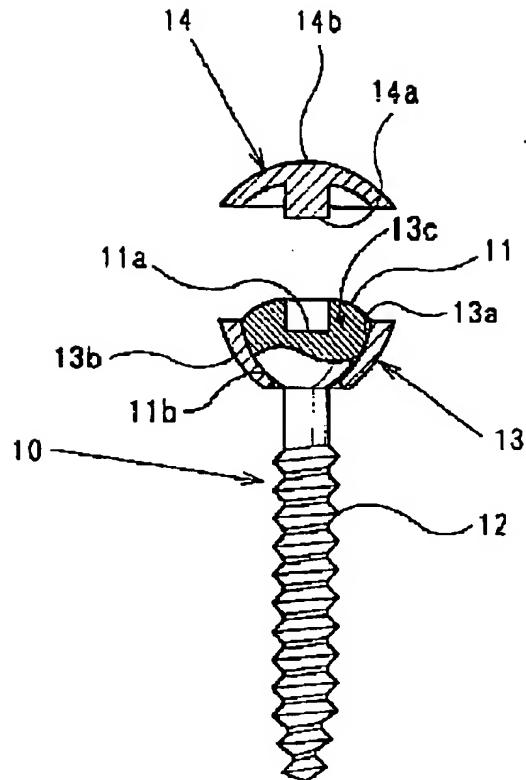
APPLICATION NUMBER : 08191410

APPLICANT : HOMUZU GIKEN:KK;

INVENTOR : MATSUMOTO SHUGO;

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TITLE : COVER MEMBER FOR MEMBER
BURIED IN VIVO AND MEMBER TO BE
BURIED IN VIVO



ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To facilitate the withdrawal of a member buried in vivo without impairing any function of the member buried in vivo after the passage of a specified time by covering a boundary part of an exposed part and a buried part of the member buried in vivo with a cover member comprising an in vivo decomposing material.

SOLUTION: A cup-shaped cover member 13 comprising an in vivo decomposing material such as polylactate or a biodegradable material such as polylactide is mounted above a boundary part between a head part 11 and a shaft part 12 of a bone screw 10 made of a titanium alloy. The cover member 13 is provided with an insertion hole 13c so as to let the shaft part 12 of the bone screw 10 be inserted therethrough. The internal surface 13a of the insertion hole 13c is so formed as to be fitted into a seat surface 11b of the head part 11 of the bone screw 10. The external surface 13b of the cover member 13 is made curved in a convex. When a need arise to screw the bone screw 10 down into the surface of a bone, the attitude of the cover member 13 is stabilized between the bone screw 10 and the surface of the bone regardless of the direction of inclination in the axis of the bone screw 10. This allows the decomposition of the cover member 13 with the passage of time thereby facilitating the withdrawal thereof.

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